

## Vesicular Stomatitis confirmed in two horses in New Mexico

---

The United States Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Services confirmed vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) infection (New Jersey serotype) on an equine premises in Otero County, New Mexico. This is the first detection of active VSV in the United States since June 2010. Two horses from the affected premises were sampled on April 18, after vesicular lesions were observed in both animals. The samples were sent to Veterinary Services' (VS) National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) for confirmation and one of the lesioned horses has met VS' official index case definition for VSV.

In cooperation with the New Mexico Livestock Board, VS has initiated an epidemiological investigation and the index premises is currently under quarantine. Three other unaffected horses located on the index premises have been isolated from the positive animals and there are no known traceouts at this time.

VSV is a notifiable disease and APHIS will report their findings to the World Animal Health Organization (OIE). Based on previous experience, VS anticipates some countries may require additional certification and diagnostic testing requirements for U.S. livestock and livestock products.

**IMPORTANT REQUEST FOR ACCREDITED VETERINARIANS:** Please check with the USDA VS office prior to examining and certifying equines and cattle for international export as additional testing or herd certification statements will likely be required.

You also may check for these updates on USDA's web site at [www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/animals/)